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W A R T I M E   E X T E N S I O N   W O R K

A  
SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS  
BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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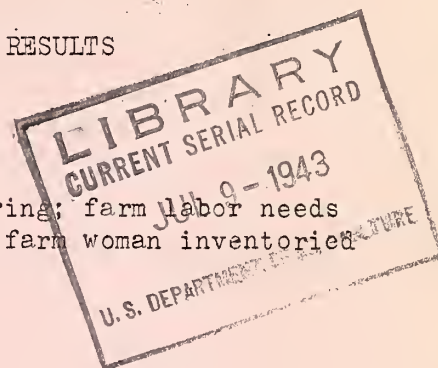
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Hemp seed production.- In Henderson County alone, farmers have contracted for 4,200 acres of hemp for seed and are not discouraged by three floods in 4 months. Mercer County exceeded by 143 acres its quota of 1,200 acres of hemp.

Summary No. 58  
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860-43



Home food supply.- Neighborhood leaders in Pike County have enrolled 1,890 families in program to produce 75 percent of their food at home. Every family in Harlan County, a coal-mining area, is attempting to produce its own pork this year, eight times the usual number of hogs raised. Lincoln County farmers, with nearly 1,000 brooder houses and several hundred good laying houses, expect to exceed greatly their poultry goal.

One farm woman in Caldwell County took inventory of her home-canned meats, fruits, and vegetables and found that, if rationed, they would have coupon value of 2,765 points. This food will last her family many months. By canning it she saved use of tires and gasoline to haul supplies from town and also helped to conserve urgently needed shipping space.

4-H Clubs.- Impressive returns in Food-for-Freedom campaign are expected in Pike County, where 5,105 boys and girls are enrolled in 73 4-H Clubs - largest county enrollment in State. They are assisted by 200 leaders and by county and home agents. Summary of enrollment shows 1,679 members enlisted to grow gardens, 856 foods, 631 canning, 834 hogs, 932 poultry, 295 corn, 222 dairy, 110 potatoes, 17 strawberries; also 1,979 in clothing work.

A thousand hogs ready for market in fall is goal of 4-H Clubs in Logan County. About 400 boys are feeding and caring for more than one hog apiece. All the 495 club girls in Garrard County are enrolled in canning project, either to help mothers can or else put up 50 to 100 jars of fruits and vegetables by themselves.

MISSOURI

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Strawberry picking was chief labor problem of month. For 3 weeks before berry harvest, county agents and farm labor assistants spent much time finding out needs of berry growers and enrolling pickers. Survey indicated that 7,500 workers, in addition to local pickers, would be needed to harvest expected crop. Agents made contact with civic and business organizations, civilian defense councils, Y. M. C. A., and Boy Scout groups, schools, and other sources. USES worked with Extension in entire program. Among groups that helped pick berries were 180 Boy Scouts. Busloads of pickers were sent from Springfield, Joplin, Carthage, and 16 other towns. Frequent heavy rains reduced marketable berries about 50 percent, yet berries sold for more than double last year's price. Recruitment campaign was so successful that a reserve of pickers was available for call.



Food recovery.- Very early in succession of floods that seriously affected more than half a million acres of cropland in 55 counties, extension agents were given kit of information from college of agriculture to assist farm families in tasks of reclamation, replanting, and repair. Information which was also given out through radio and newspapers, covered family and community health, crop and vegetable production, care of livestock and poultry, care of household and equipment, and community organization for mutual assistance.

Farm people did effective job of organizing community exchanges of labor and machinery to hasten replanting of flooded lands. While lowland fields were still too wet to work, families from both upland and lowland farms worked on higher ground, making hay, plowing corn, cleaning up gardens, and replanting eroded fields. As conditions permitted, labor, machinery, and power were moved to lowland farms to repair flood damage and replant crops. Many farmers not affected by floods gave help to those who needed it.

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School district chairmen in neighborhood-leader system helped greatly in locating quarters for refugee families, as well as shelter and forage for animals. They assisted county agents in gathering information about distressed families and amount of damage done to buildings, equipment, machinery, herds and flocks, levees, fences, and stocks of feed and seed. This information was given to Red Cross and other agencies through which farmers could obtain priorities, credit, and other aids to reconstruction.

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Young Bates County farmer is making profitable use of labor-saving devices and methods on 560-acre farm, which he operates with help of one full-time hand. Spreading his labor load over entire year has been great help in establishing present balanced farming system. His production program this year provides for 85 acres of corn, 85 acres of oats, 450 head of market hogs, and 107 head of yearling and 2-year-old steers. He uses home-made tandem disk hitch and also pulls behind his tractor a harrow, corn planter, grain drill, fertilizer drill, or lime spreader to double up on use of manpower and tractor power. He uses self-feeders for feeding corn, supplement, and mineral to hogs on pasture. Tractor buck rake saves 2 or 3 men in haying, threshing, and silo filling. He uses a hammer mill blower for elevating small grain into overhead bins.

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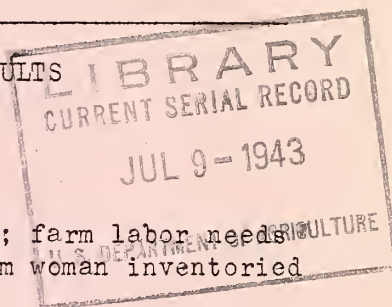
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